

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-69 were pending. Claims 1, 20, 24, 43, 47, and 66 have been amended. Reconsideration and re-examination of pending claims 1-69 is respectfully requested.

In response to the Office Action mailed March 30, 2006, the Examiner's claim rejections have been considered. Applicants respectfully traverse all rejections regarding all pending claims and earnestly solicit allowance of these claims.

1. Claim Rejection 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-8, 11-15, 20-31, 34-38, 43-54, 58-61, and 66-69 are rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Platt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,812,698). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Platt fails to teach, describe, or suggest the invention in amended independent claims 1, 20, 24, 43, 47, and 66. In particular, Platt fails to teach, describe, or suggest the confirmed symbol observation source of the amended independent claims. Therefore, Platt does not anticipate the claimed invention.

2. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 9-10, 16-19, 32-33, 39-42, 55-56, and 62-65 are rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Platt et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,812,698) as applied to claims 1-8, 11-15, 20-31, 34-38, 43-54, 58-61, and 66-69 above and further in view of Friend et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,455,901). Inasmuch as these are dependent claims based on allowable base independent claims, these claims are themselves allowable.

CONCLUSION

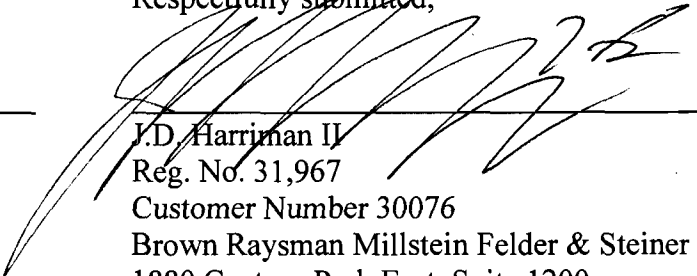
Applicants have made an earnest and *bona fide* effort to clarify the issues before the Examiner and to place this case in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of all of claims 1-69 is believed to be in order, and a timely Notice of Allowance to this effect is respectfully requested.

Applicants petition for a three-month extension of time by authorizing payment of the \$510 fee by credit card. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional required fees from Deposit Account No. 502811, Deposit Account Name BROWN RAYSMAN MILLSTEIN FELDER & STEINER LLP.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning the foregoing, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (310) 712-8300. The undersigned attorney can normally be reached Monday through Friday from about 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM Pacific Time.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 2, 2006



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